

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

November 26, 2013

Relates to Item #12Setting Standards and Requirements for the Development of Commercial Horse Stables in the West Ranch Dominguez-Victoria Community Standards District

On June 18, 2012, a fire broke out in a horse stable located at 13107 Athens Way in the unincorporated community of West Ranch Dominguez, during which three horses and a goat perished. This facility had been the site of numerous fires, building and safety citations, animal cruelty cases, and criminal investigations.

Due to the complex and numerous legal, health, safety, and environmental issues involved on this site, on July 10, 2012, the Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to convene the Athens Way Horse Stables Task Force (Task Force), which consisted of the Departments of Animal Care and Control, Public Health, Public Works, Treasurer and Tax Collector, Regional Planning, District Attorney, County Counsel, Fire, and Sheriff. Among other directives, the Task Force was asked to develop policy recommendations for potential changes to the County Code to regulate the approval and development of commercial horse stables within the West Rancho Dominguez-Victoria Community Standards District (CSD).

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On July 17, 2012, the Board of Supervisors adopted an interim ordinance to temporarily prevent the establishment of commercial horse stables in any zone within the CSD until appropriate standards for these facilities could be fully analyzed and recommended for possible adoption. On November 30, 2012, the CEO provided a final report on the Task Force's recommendations, which identified potential code changes to Title 22 – Planning and Zoning specific to the regulation of commercial horse stables and equestrian facilities.

On January 15, 2013, the Board of Supervisors recommended approval of the policy recommendations provided by the Task Force and directed County Counsel, in consultation with the Department of Regional Planning, to draft a proposed ordinance for consideration that would amend the County Code. The proposed ordinance provides a framework for commercial equestrian facilities to be established in the West Rancho Dominguez area in a safe manner that is compatible with the surrounding urban community.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

- Close the public hearing and consider the Negative Declaration, together with any comments received during the public review process, find on the basis of the whole that there is no substantial evidence the project will have a significant effect on the environment, find that the Negative Declaration reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the Board, and adopt the Negative Declaration;
- Approve the recommendation of the Regional Planning Commission to amend Title 22 of the Los Angeles County Code relating to development standards and

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requirements for commercial horse stables within the West Rancho Dominguez-Victoria CSD as reflected in the draft ordinance; and

- Indicate its intent to approve the ordinance and direct County Counsel to prepare the ordinance to bring back to the Board at a future meeting, prior to the expiration of the urgency ordinance, for the Board's consideration.

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